

CONTINUING EDUCATION POLICY FOR ARCHITECTS RELATING TO HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

Health, safety and welfare (HSW) in architecture is defined as anything that relates to the structural integrity or soundness of a building or building site. Requirements for HSW training are intended to protect the public.

Health—aspects of architecture that have salutary effects among users of buildings or sites and address environmental concerns. Examples include appropriate air temperature, humidity, and quality; adequate provisions for personal hygiene; and use of non-toxic materials or finishes.

Safety—aspects of architecture intended to limit or prevent accidental injury or death of building site users. Examples include provision of fire-rated egress enclosures, automatic sprinkler systems, and stairs with correct rise-to-run proportions.

Welfare—aspects of architecture that engender positive emotional response among, or enable equal access by, users of buildings or sites. Examples include spaces with scale, proportion, materials, and color pleasing for the intended use; spaces that afford natural light and views of nature; and spaces that provide for users with disabilities.

To qualify for HSW credit, programs or courses must demonstrate that 75% of the content specifically addresses one or more of the topics outlined below:

Accessibility	Insurance to protect the owners of property and injured parties
Acoustics	Interior design
Building design	Laws and regulations governing the practice of architecture
Code of ethics	Life safety codes
Construction administration	Materials and systems: roofing and waterproofing, wall systems, etc.
Construction contract laws, legal aspects	Material use, function and features
Construction documents, services	Mechanical, plumbing, electrical: system concepts, materials, and methods
Construction functions, materials, methods, and systems	Natural hazards (earthquake, hurricane, flood), related to building design
Energy efficiency	Preservation, renovation, restoration and adaptive reuse
Environmental: asbestos, lead-based paint, toxic emissions	Security of buildings, design
Environmental analysis and issues of building materials and systems	Site and soils analysis
Fire: building fire codes—flame spread, smoke contribution, explosives	Site design
Fire safety systems: detection and alarm standards	Specification writing
	Structural issues
	Surveying methods, techniques
	Sustainable design

Topics that do not qualify as HSW include computer software training and business practices, firm marketing, personnel and management issues.

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